

### *Points of Interest along the route*

**Dunwood Park** : Captain Abram Crompton presented the land to the Council on Coronation Day in June 1911 and the park celebrated extensive refurbishment in its centenary year.

**Jubilee** : Jubilee Colliery was founded in 1845 to access the Mountain Mine coal seam 99 metres below the surface. The Colliery closed in 1932 and is now a delightful nature reserve.

**Crompton Moor** : Spanning approximately 160 acres, the moor has an abundance of wildlife and many interesting sites including Pingot Quarry and waterfall, Crow Knowl (summit) and the scenic Brushesh Clough reservoir.

**Grains Bar – Kings Arms** : An old boundary meeting point for Oldham, Saddleworth and Crompton. Tradition says that the boundary passes over the pub and in days gone by someone was made to cross over the roof.

**Besom Hill Reservoir** : The reservoir is now dry but the old stream bed can still be seen in the mud. Previously, it was tradition for somebody to swim across the reservoir during "Beating the Bounds".

**Lower Fullwood Farm** : To the west of the farm, aeroplane sheds once stood where components for Avro fighter planes were made during the first World War.

**Milnrow Road** : Along this road towards Newhey is a boundary stone set in the wall on the right which is marked B/C for 'Butterworth' (the old name for Milnrow) and 'Crompton'. Diagonally across the road is another marker set in a sloping wall.



The walk is a circular route of about 13 miles, taking in sites including, Jubilee, Pingot Quarry, Crompton Moor, Brushesh Clough, Fullwood, and Ellenroad; walkers can expect to see stunning views over the Pennines and Oldham and beyond.

The walk will leave from Dunwood Park, Shaw OL2 7UQ at 09.30am. If required, a break will be taken at the Kings Arms, Grains Bar OL4 2JX ; other rest breaks will be available at St. Joseph's Church, Shaw OL2 8SZ and The Puckersley Inn, 22 Narrowgate Brow, Royton OL2 6YD. For those who want an easier walk why not join us at the King's Arms (approx. 12.00) or St. Joseph's Church, (approx. 13.30 pm) or The Puckersley Inn, (approx. 14.30 pm) where we then continue along the rest of the journey.

Walkers will need to be physically fit to take part in this intermediate-to-hard walk. Please bring a packed lunch and drinks sufficient for the walk together with water proofs and suitable footwear.

*This is not a charity walk but by all means you may be sponsored on behalf of individual charities. Alternatively, you may wish to make a voluntary donation to the Chairman's charities (Age UK and Royton, Shaw and Crompton Blind Support Group based at Downey House, Royton)*

**Anyone interested in participating in this free guided walk should meet at Dunwood Park Cafe, Smallbrook Road, Shaw, OL2 7UQ, at 09:15 am.**

The septennial

## BEATING THE BOUNDS



**SHAW & CROMPTON  
PARISH COUNCIL**

**SUNDAY**

**26 SEPTEMBER 2021**

**Departing at 9:30am**

**from Dunwood Park**

**9:15am sign in at Dunwood Park café for a  
9:30am start**

For more information, please contact

the Clerk to the Council

1 Kershaw Street East, Shaw OL2 8AB

Tel. 01706 847590 / 07436 229083

Email [clerk.shawcrompton@btconnect.com](mailto:clerk.shawcrompton@btconnect.com)

## Origin

Beating the Bounds is an ancient custom from Anglo Saxon times. During the ritual, a group of prominent elders would walk the geographical boundary of their locality, to impress a memory on future generations.

Before people could read, just about every town and parish carried out its own annual ceremony of 'Beating the Bounds'.

The elders, armed with birch twigs, would head a crowd of young people around the boundary, beating the stones with their sticks (sometimes beating the youngsters as well, to further impress their memories!).

Today, with maps and other measures, it might seem somewhat barbaric, but in prior times it was necessary to know the Parish in which you resided. It was important to know when you left your area, to know to whom to pay taxes and even to know where you would be entitled to be buried! For landowners, it was also very useful to avoid disputes.

Oldham's Shaw and Crompton Parish Council revived Beating the Bounds at the turn of the present century, albeit only on a seven-year basis.



'Keeping tradition alive'

## Itinerary for the day

| Approximate times of arrival  | Location                             | Main road crossing | Checks  | Time (minutes) |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------|---------|----------------|
| 09:30   | Leave Dunwood Park                   |                    | Steward |                |
| 09:45   | Jubilee                              | C                  | Marshal | 15             |
| 10:45   | Moorcock Fingerpost                  |                    |         | 60             |
| 12:00   | King's Arms, Grains Bar – rest break | C                  | Marshal | 75             |
| 12:15   | Depart King's Arms, Grains Bar       | C                  | Marshal | 15             |
| 12:35   | Besom Hill reservoir                 |                    |         | 20             |
| 13:00   | Lilac Mill                           |                    |         | 25             |
| 13:30   | St. Joseph's – rest break            | C                  | Marshal | 30             |
| 13:50   | Depart St. Joseph's                  |                    |         | 20             |
| 14:00   | Luzley Brook                         | C                  | Marshal | 10             |
| 14:30   | Puckersley Inn – rest break          |                    |         | 30             |
| 15:00   | Depart Puckersley Inn                | C                  | Marshal | 30             |
| 15:50   | Pit Lane / Rochdale Road             | C                  | Marshal | 50             |
| 16:35   | Ellenroad (Cedar Lane)               | C                  | Marshal | 45             |
| 17:30   | End Dunwood Park                     |                    | Steward | 55             |
| * Steward (checks people in/out) ; Marshal (checks people across roads)<br>C = Main road crossing |                                      |                    |         |                |